

PART 5: GONE FISHING

We believe that everyone has the responsibility to invest in someone's life who does not attend church and to invite them. *Invest and Invite*. Inviting them to oneChurch. Inviting them to hear your story, because all of us has a story to tell. Because *Found People Find People*.

BIG IDEA: Followers Fish by the life you live, the stories you share, and the places you invite.

1. Chris said, "If you're a follower of Jesus today, you are called to go into the deep murky shark infested waters to fish, because that's what followers do." Do you agree or disagree? Why?

A way you can become a fisher of men is how you live your life.

2. With the Bible or Bible App, read Matthew 18:19-20.

"I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them."

Matthew 18:19-20 (NLT)

One of the best ways to study the Bible and get the most from it is to make simple observations about the verses you read. Many times these observations can lead to questions you might want to ask of the text. Other times, simple observations just help you key in to important concepts or ideas.

3. With the Bible or Bible App, read Matthew 4:18-22.

One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" And they left their nets at once and followed him. A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, repairing their nets. And he called them to come, too. They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.

Matthew 4:18-22 (NLT)

- 4. Make a list of 10 observations from this passage. Look for key words, repeated ideas, and interesting facts.
- 5. One of the ways you fish for men is through the way you live. Read the following verses:
 - Matthew 5:14-16
 - Titus 2:7
 - James 2:26

- James 3:13
- Hebrews 10:24

Another way you can become a fisher of men is through the *stories you share*.

6. With the Bible or Bible App, read John 4:39 and Matthew 28:19-20.

Many Samaritans from the village believed in Jesus because the woman had said, "He told me everything I ever did!"

John 4:39 (NLT)

Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)

- 7. Your story can change somebody's life. Have you shared your story with your group? If not, do so now...
- 8. Be intentional today about sharing something about your love for God or some way He is working in your life with someone in your life.

You can fish for men through the invitations you offer.

#SHARK SERIES

- 9. Chris said, "The outcome is not dependent on you, the invitation is." Why don't more people share their story with others? Do you think it's because they feel responsible for the outcome?
- 10. Chris said, "Don't say, 'No' for them, instead give them a chance to say, 'Yes' to Jesus."
- 11. With the Bible or Bible App, read Isaiah 52:7 and John 1:46.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings good news, the good news of peace and salvation, the news that the God of Israel reigns! Isaiah 52:7 (NLT)

"Nazareth!" exclaimed Nathanael. "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" "Come and see for yourself,"
Philip replied.

John 1:46 (NLT)

12. God wants to use you in the greatest mission on earth and all you have to do is say, "come and see!" Invite someone today to join you at oneChurch.tv.

FOR FURTHER STUDY

- 1. When you were growing up, who were the people you were told not to associate with? What part of the city or country would you be warned about?
- 2. Where was the 'watering hole' in your home town, where everybody went to 'hang out'?
- 3. Since 'nice girls' did not come to draw water at noontime, why do you think Jesus risked His reputation to ask a favor of this woman?
- 4. In John 4:26, Jesus reveals who He is for the first time. What is significant about Jesus choosing this occasion to reveal Himself?
- 5. May times people put off talking about Jesus because they think they don't know enough. How much did the Samaritan woman know about Jesus? Did she have any questions lingering? Any doubts?

Break up into three groups and have each group read one of the following passages: John 1:35-41, John 3:1-21, John 4:5-29.

- 6. How did Jesus differ His approach about sharing His story in these three passages in John?
- 7. How is His audience different (John's disciples, Nicodemus, Samaritan woman)?

MOVING FORWARD

Everyone has a story to tell. Many people can argue about the Bible or church, but they can't argue with your story, because it happened to you.

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

When we gather on official "Jesus" business, His Spirit is present and powerful! Who is in your life that needs to experience the presence and the power of Jesus? Name Names. Pray for them and make an effort this week to invite them to join you at oneChurch.tv.

Practice telling your story to each other in your small group. Remember, your story should consist of three things:

- 1. Your life before Jesus?
- 2. How you met Jesus?
- 3. How has Jesus made your life meaningful today?

Identify three people you need to listen to their story, tell your story, and invite them into God's story. Set a date to share your story with them.

